

REMARKS

By this Amendment claims 17 and 30 have been amended to overcome the examiner's formality rejections and to include the features of claims 20 and 21 (now canceled). Since it is believed that these amendments suffice to place this application in allowable form, entry is requested.

In the outstanding final Office Action the examiner has required submission of a new substitute Declaration.

A suitable substitute Declaration has been prepared (copy attached) and is currently being forwarded to the inventors for signature. It will be submitted immediately upon receipt by the undersigned.

The examiner has again rejected claims 17-26 and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoglund et al., he has rejected claims 17-26, 28-30 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by UK 1277416, he has rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over UK 1277416 in view of Wickoren, and he has rejected claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoglund et al. in view of Fukazawa.

However, the inventors assert that these rejections cannot be continued against amended claims 17 and 30, which now define the feature that one of the defined blades on an intake side is flush with a front edge of the axial projection that extends from the intake side of the cover disk (see Fig. 2).

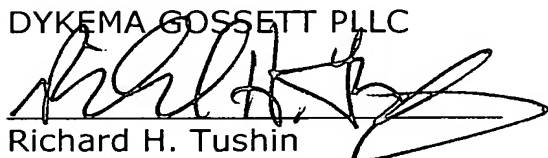
Neither Hoglund et al. or UK 1277416 are believed to show a pump apparatus wherein the blades define front edges that are flush with a front edge of an axial projection that extends from a cover disk in the intake direction of the pump. Such an arrangement assists in fabrication of the impeller via casting insofar as only two form halves are needed. And nothing in the secondary patents would overcome this deficiency.

As such, the inventors request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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